confirmations specified under Section 3 of this Act, Section 2 of this Act shall take effect the first day of the month after the State Retirement Agency receives the ruling. If a private letter ruling is received by the State Retirement Agency from the Internal Revenue Service that does not make all of the confirmations specified in Section 3 of this Act, Section 2 of this Act, with no further action required by the General Assembly, shall be null and void and of no force and effect. The State Retirement Agency, within 5 days after receiving the ruling from the Internal Revenue Service, shall forward a copy of the ruling to the Department of Legislative Services, 90 State Circle, Annapolis, Maryland 21401.

SECTION 2. 5. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That, subject to the provisions of Section 4 of this Act, this Act shall take effect July 1, 1999.

Approved April 27, 1999.

## CHAPTER 124

(Senate Bill 170)

AN ACT concerning

## **Department of Veterans Affairs**

FOR the purpose of creating the Department of Veterans Affairs as a principal department of State government; providing for the qualifications, appointment, powers, duties and salary of the Secretary of Veterans Affairs; organizing the Maryland Veterans Commission, Maryland Veterans' Home Commission, and War Memorial Commission under the Department; providing for the staffing, administration, and duties of the Maryland Veterans Commission; altering the membership of the Commission; authorizing the Maryland Veterans Commission to delegate certain powers and duties under certain circumstances; repealing certain requirements of the Maryland Veterans Commission; revising certain definitions; correcting certain terms; repealing certain obsolete provisions; defining certain terms; specifying that the publisher of the Annotated Code of Maryland, in consultation with the Department of Legislative Services, shall correct agency names and titles in the Code to conform to the changes made by this Act; and generally relating to the Department of Veterans Affairs.

BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,

Article - State Government

Section 8-201; 9-801 through 9-807, inclusive, to be under the new part "Part IV. War Memorial Commission"; 9-901 to be under the amended subtitle "Subtitle 9. Department of Veterans Affairs" and the amended part "Part I. Established"; 9-904, 9-905, 9-907, 9-909 through 9-915, 9-913, inclusive, 9-915, 9-920, 9-925, and 9-926

Annotated Code of Maryland (1995 Replacement Volume and 1998 Supplement)